

**From:** Joyce Hlava  
**To:** Microsoft ATR  
**Date:** 1/26/02 12:12pm  
**Subject:** Microsoft Settlement

Dear sirs,

I just want to register my objections to the proposed settlement. Living in Silicon Valley and working in the industry, I appreciate the fact that Microsoft does indeed establish a standard for most consumer PC products.

The way they have done it though is unbelievably coercive. I remember being at a banking trade show about 5 years ago and talking to a Microsoft employee who was working the booth. It was really interesting because he had been VP of sales for a small company which was bought by MS. He said that this start-up had a great technology and had the "normal problems" (which means total stone wall trying to get information) from MS in order to make their product compatible with Windows. When MS realized what their technology did, it came to them with "an offer they couldn't refuse". They had to either sell or MS would develop the technology themselves and incorporate it for free. Having seen what happened to Netscape, a bigger and better financed company, the partners felt they had no choice. This is a story that I have heard over and over.

The proposed settlement is only a slap on the wrist. It allows MS to saturate the education market in a big way. Since this is the only market with a serious operating system competitor (Apple), this isn't punishment, it's a reward.

Joyce Hlava Ogden